



12-15-03

TO: Patent Office  
FROM: Amanollah Yegani  
SUBJECT: Progress Report on Patent No. 6172144  
DATE: November 15, 2003

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is to report on the progress achieved on the utilization of Patent No. 6172144 from the issue date to present.

The following is the summary of the activities to date:

- Acquisition of raw materials from the industry in Northern California.
- Production of sample boards in various sizes, thickness, dimensions, and quantities.
- Testing of the sample board specifications in the Hodges Laboratory at the Wood and Paper Science Department, North Carolina State University in Raleigh.
- While additional samples and testing are needed, the results of the tests on the samples to date are very encouraging as it can be observed in the attached document.
- Development of various opportunities for producing additional product types and conducting further testing and evaluations.
- Exploration of follow up business opportunities for a number of products.
- Development of joint venture opportunities with the state of California and Pulp and Paper industries for production of prototypes in limited quantities for marketing purposes.

I believe our next phase is promising and remain available to answer any questions that you may have in this regard. You may reach me at (919) 656-4349. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

*in*  
LLC · Hodapen Co.

Amanollah Yegani

11.29.03



North Carolina State University is a land-grant university and a constituent institution of The University of North Carolina

Department of Wood and Paper Science

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WP Extension 919.515.5637

November 6, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

The following data are the results of water soaking tests on the rice hull boards produced at the Hodges Wood Products Laboratory at NC State University. The boards were produced and tested by Hodges personnel.

	% Thickness Swell		% Linear Expansion		% weight Gain	
	2 hour Watersoak	24 hour Watersoak	2 hour Watersoak	24 hour Watersoak	2 hour Watersoak	24 hour Watersoak
SAMPLE A	5.66%	7.55%	0.00%	0.48%	4.29%	11.59%
	7.35%	10.78%	-0.08%	0.20%		
	6.84%	10.00%	0.08%	0.58%		
	6.83%	10.24%	0.28%	0.65%		
SAMPLE B	3.30%	4.19%	0.03%	0.18%	1.19%	2.96%
	3.04%	5.00%	0.10%	0.13%		
	3.00%	6.47%	-0.08%	-0.10%		
	3.43%	4.81%	0.22%	0.36%		

These boards are not very porous; consequently the weight gain from water pickup is relatively small and the dimensional changes are also rather small, as compared to wood-based boards.

Sincerely,

M. W. Kelly  
Professor